



Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation

The Wadden Sea is an area of Outstanding Universal Value shared by three countries. Since 1978, the Netherlands, Germany and Denmark have cooperated to jointly protect and manage the Wadden Sea as an entity. Nowadays, the Wadden Sea enjoys the highest level of protection as national parks and nature reserves for the benefit of present and future generations.



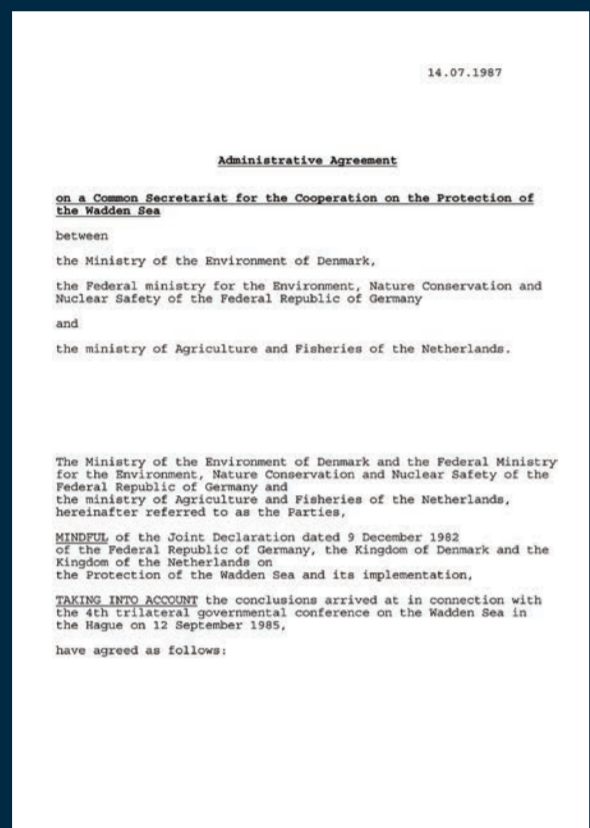
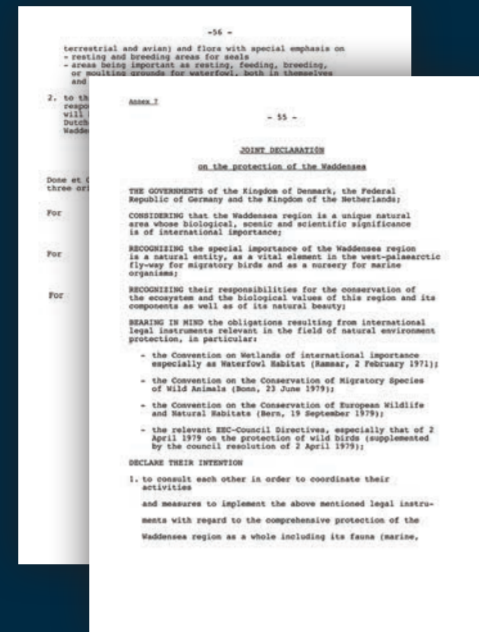
Milestones of joint Wadden Sea Policy and Management

1978

First Trilateral Governmental Conference in The Hague

1982

Joint Declaration



1987

Establishing a Common Wadden Sea Secretariat

1988

Wadden Sea Seal Agreement – first regional agreement of Convention on Migratory Species – CMS

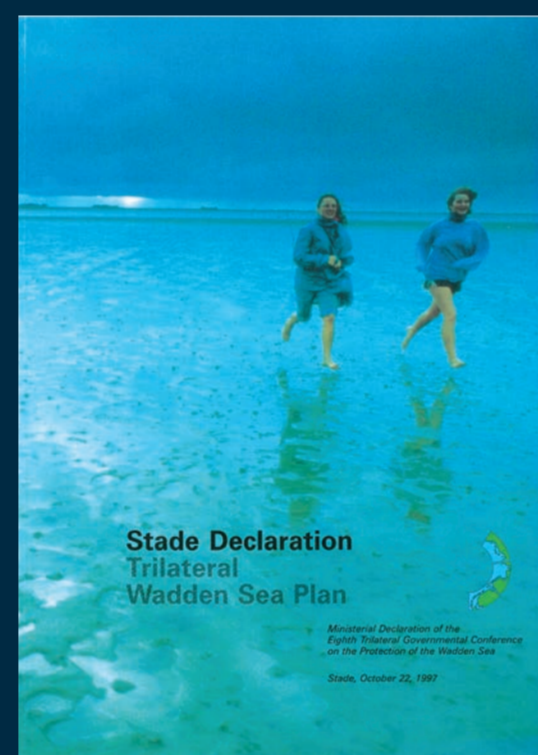
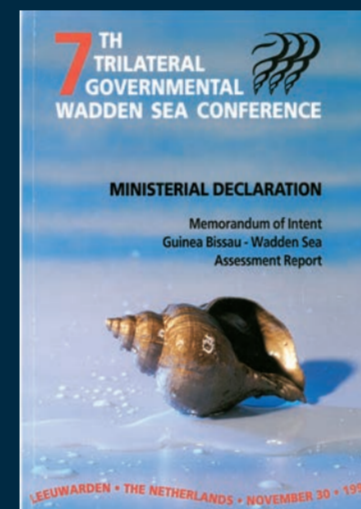


1991

Guiding Principle and Common Management Principles

1994

Common delimitation Wadden Sea Area and Conservation Area, common ecological targets, Trilateral Monitoring and Assessment Programme

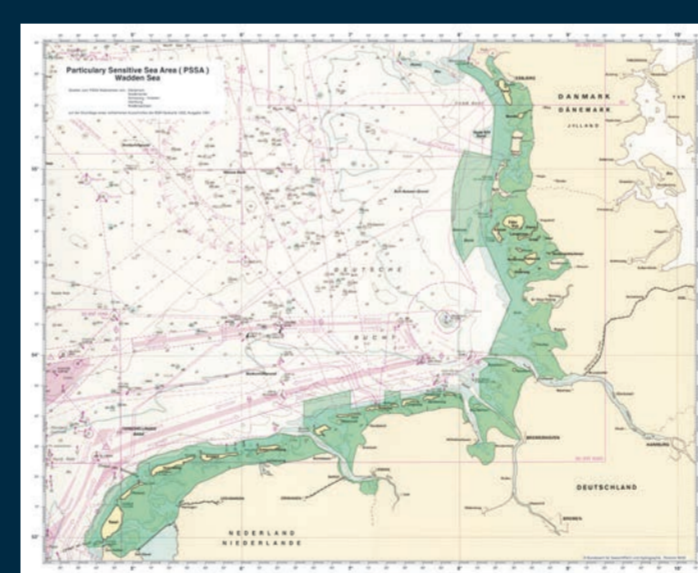


1997

Wadden Sea Plan

2002

Designation of the Wadden Sea as PSSA under IMO



2002

Wadden Sea Forum commences its work

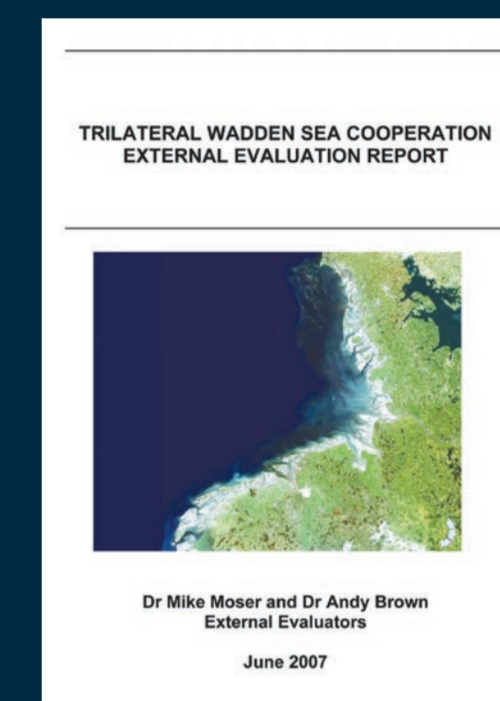
2003

25th anniversary Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation



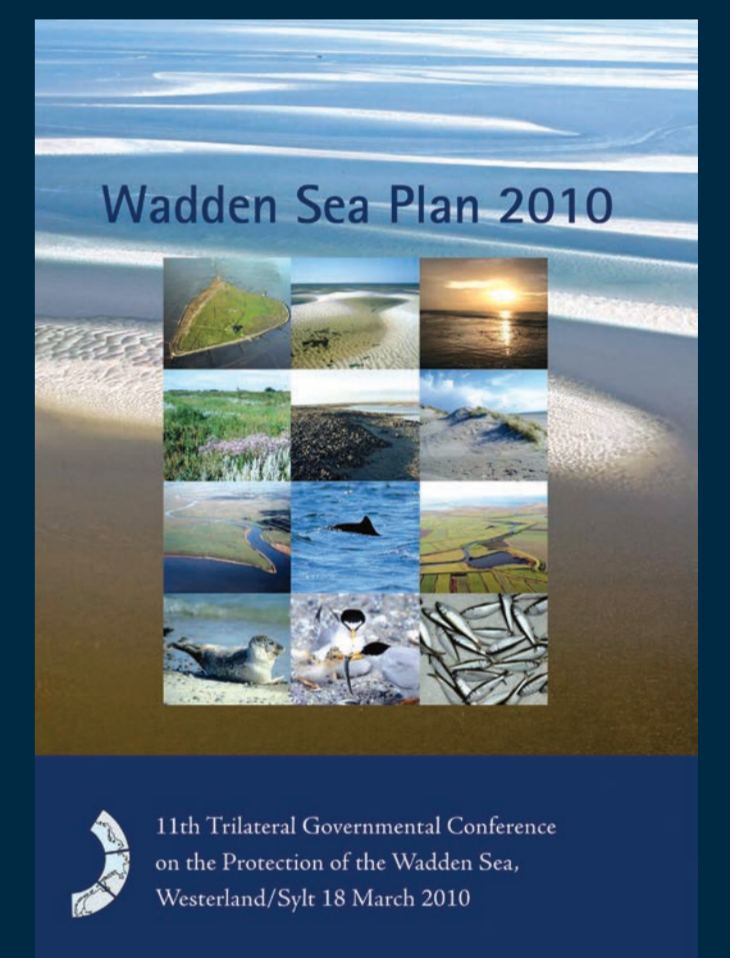
2007

Evaluation of the Cooperation



2010

Revised Wadden Sea Plan and Joint Declaration



2014

12th Trilateral Governmental Conference in Tønder



From left: Sascha Klöpffer, Gerold Lütßen, Marijke Polanski, Jens Enemark, Anja Domnick, Harald Marencic, Folkert de Jong, Simone Goth, 2014

The Common Wadden Sea Secretariat – initiator, coordinator, facilitator

Established in 1987 in Wilhelmshaven, the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat is in charge of the daily work of the Cooperation. It works under the Chairperson of the Wadden Sea Board and is responsible for implementing the decisions of the Board, prepares Task Group meetings, coordinates the expert network and the TMAP, as well as outreach and communication.



From left: John Frederiksen, Rob Uyterlinde, Birgitte Lenz-Ribbrock, Marijke Polanski, Jens Enemark, Folkert de Jong, Bettina Reineking, 1994

Milestones of the Secretariat

1985

Decision at 4th Governmental Conference, The Hague, to establish a Common Secretariat

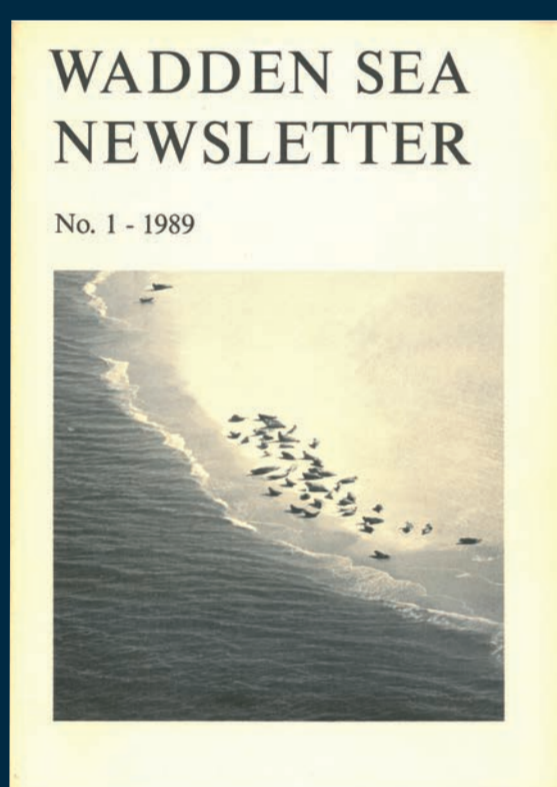
1987

Jens Enemark assumes work as secretary



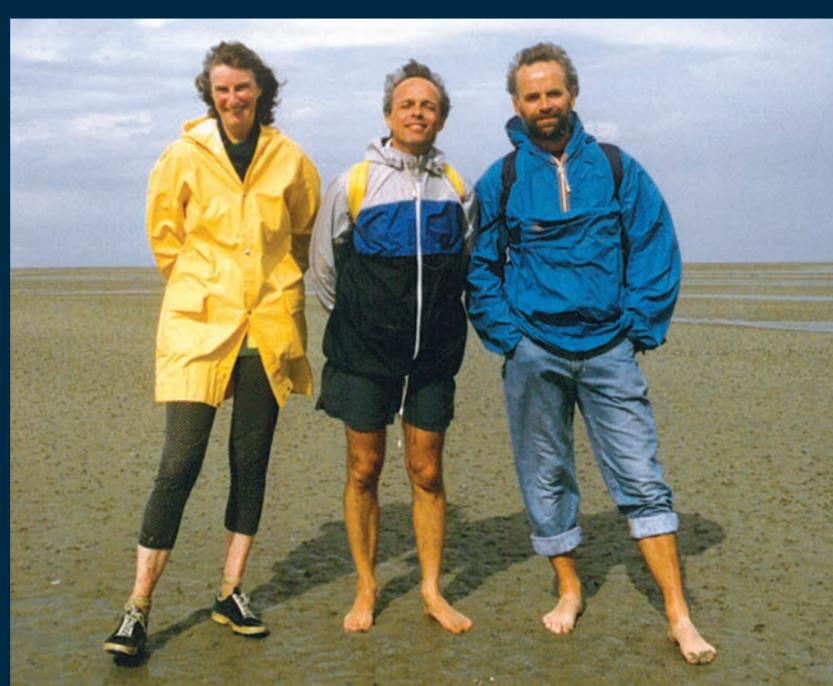
1988

First staff employed: Marijke Polanski, administrative and financial officer; Bettina Reineking, deputy secretary, habitats and species management



1989

First Wadden Sea Newsletter published

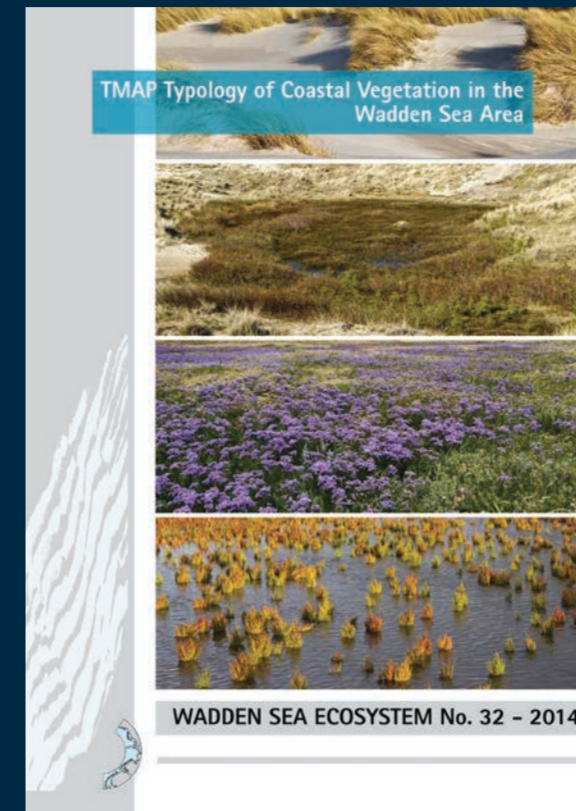


1990

Employment of Folkert de Jong, deputy secretary, ecosystem management

1994

First issue of the Wadden Sea Ecosystem published – No.32 published in 2014



1995

Harald Marencic employed as deputy secretary, monitoring coordination

1996

Gerold Lürßen employed as data handling coordinator (LIFE project Demowad)

1997

First website of Common Wadden Sea Secretariat



1999

Manfred Vollmer employed as coordinator of the INTERREG project Lancewad and Lancewadplan

2003

International Wadden Sea School, Anja Szczesinski as coordinator



2006

First Wadden Sea Day in cooperation with Lower Saxon National Park



2008

First electronic Wadden Sea Newsletter



2011

Nataliya Drozdovych joins the CWSS as communication officer

2012

The CWSS becomes an independent legal entity

2012

Three new staff members: Sascha Klöpffer (TMAP), Anja Domnick (INTERREG project PROWAD), Simone Goth (administrative support)



Assessing the salt marshes. Copyright Martin Stock.

The Trilateral Monitoring and Assessment Programme (TMAG)

The TMAG covers the entire Wadden Sea area and spans a broad range of parameters from physiological processes and population development to changes in landscape and morphology. It provides the basis for periodic scientific assessment of the ecosystem and an evaluation of progress towards the ecological targets set out in the Wadden Sea Plan.



TMAG-meeting-2005

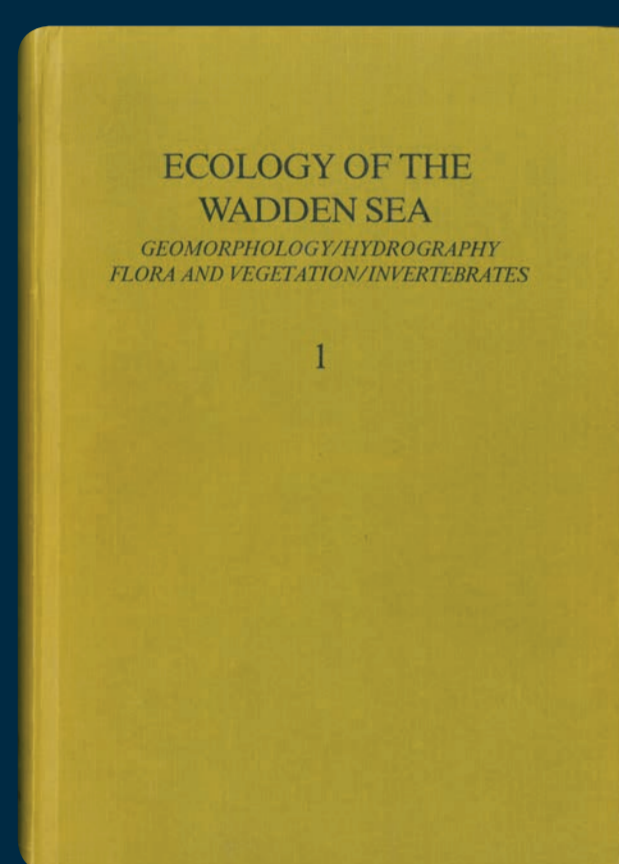
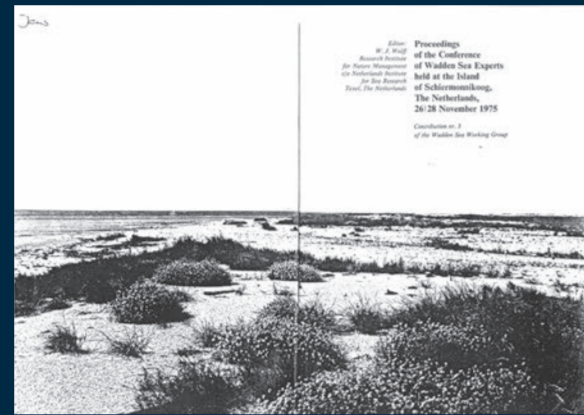
Milestones of Science and Monitoring

1966

Establishment of an International Wadden Sea Working group of scientists

1975

First International Scientific Wadden Sea Symposium on Schiermonnikoog



1983

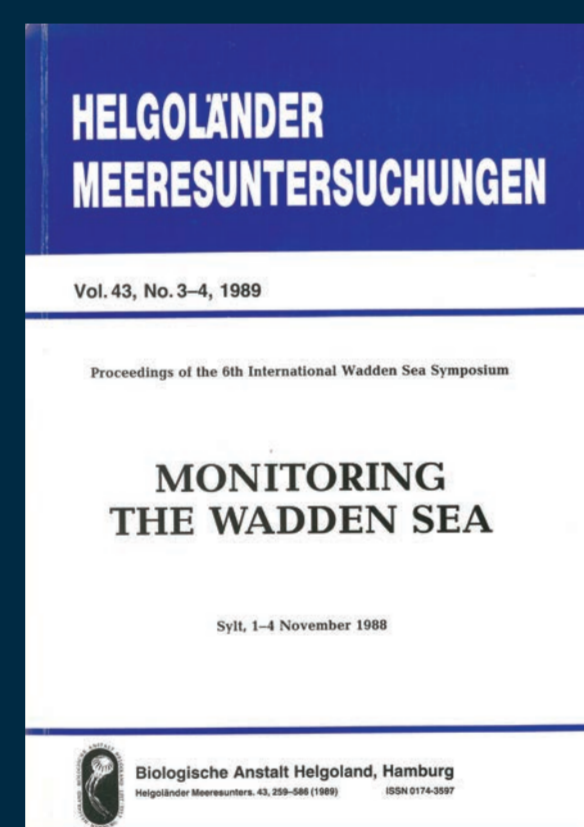
Ecology of the Wadden Sea – the first publication that compiles the scientific knowledge of the entire Wadden Sea

1988

Seals epidemic – CWSS as European information hub and delivers factual information

1988

6th International Scientific Wadden Sea Symposium on monitoring in Sylt

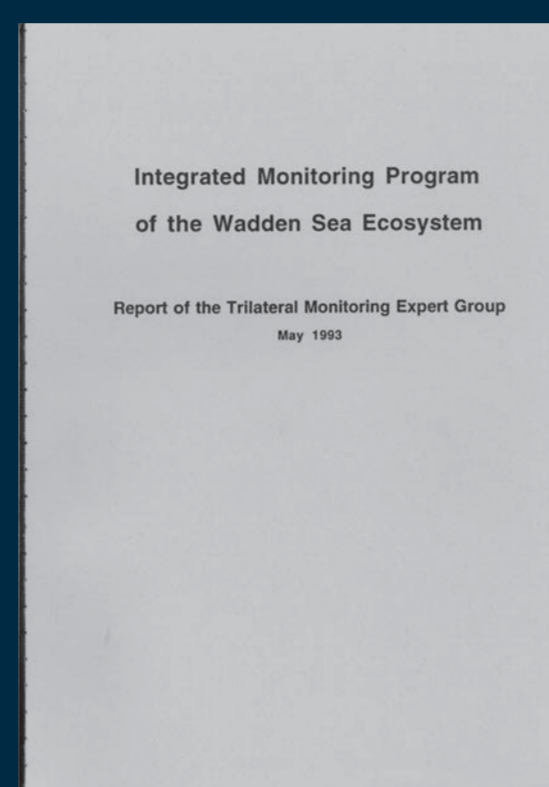
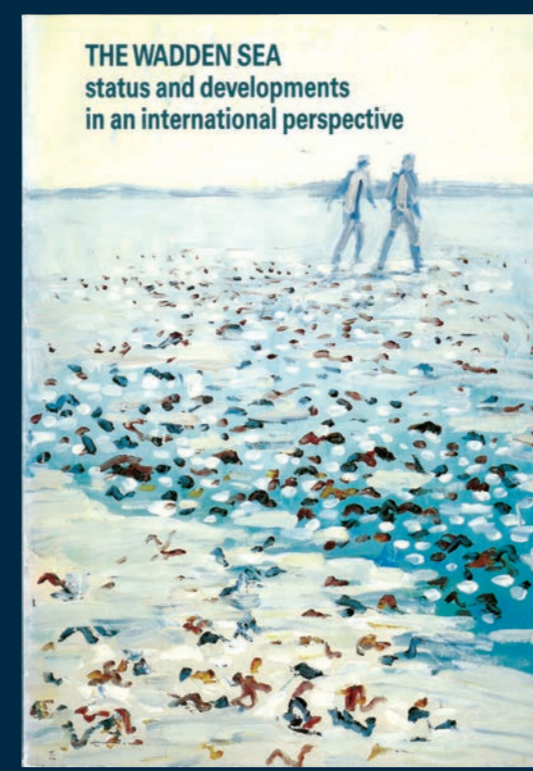


1989

Start of the Trilateral Monitoring Project of Breeding Birds and the Joint Seal Project

1991

First Quality Status Report published

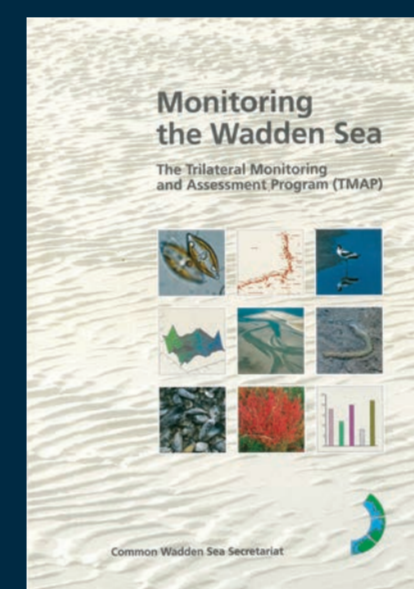


1993

Start of the Trilateral Monitoring Project of Migratory Birds

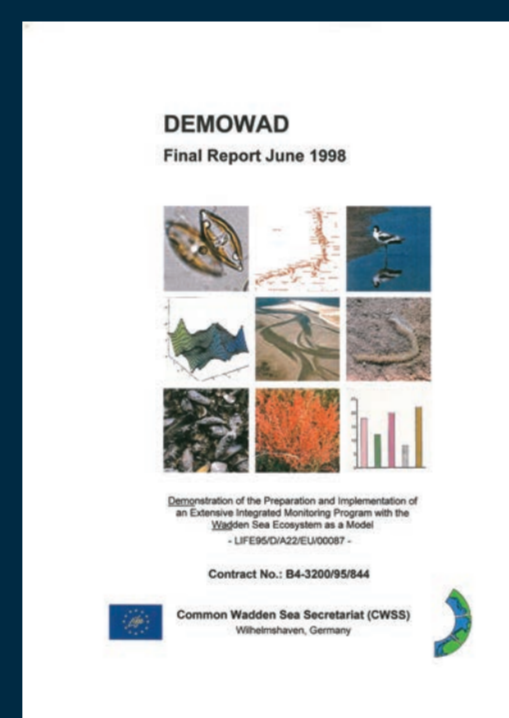
1993

Concept of an integrated monitoring programme by the Trilateral Monitoring Expert Group



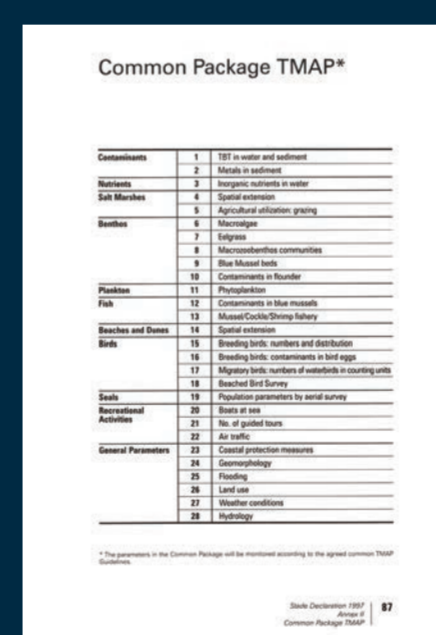
1996

The Demowad Life project to develop an implementation plan for new Trilateral Monitoring and Assessment Programme



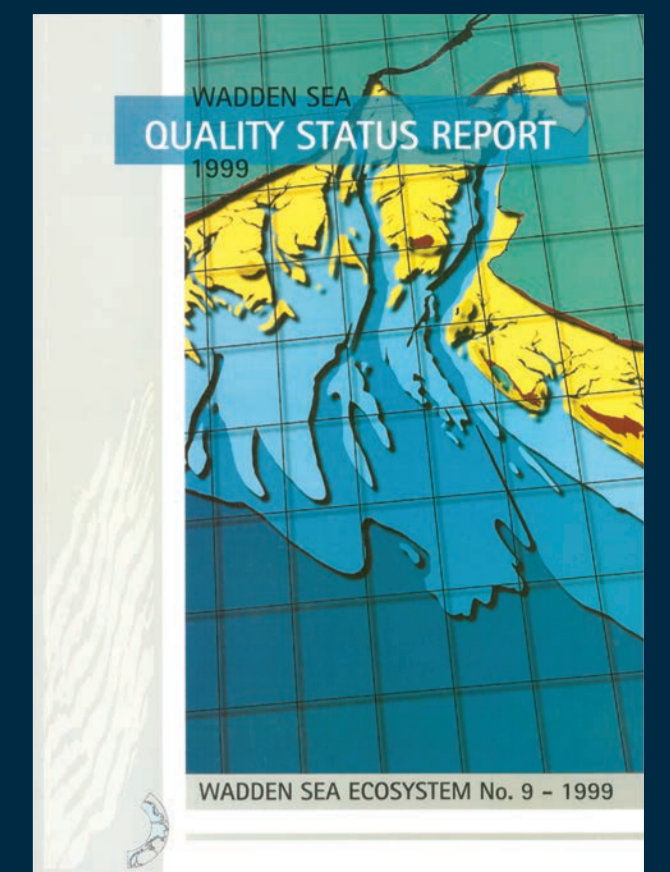
1997

Adoption of a harmonised set of TMAP parameters and data management



1999

Third Quality Status Report published – first in the framework of TMAP



2002

Outbreak of second seal epidemic – TMAP and CWSS provide factual information on status of population

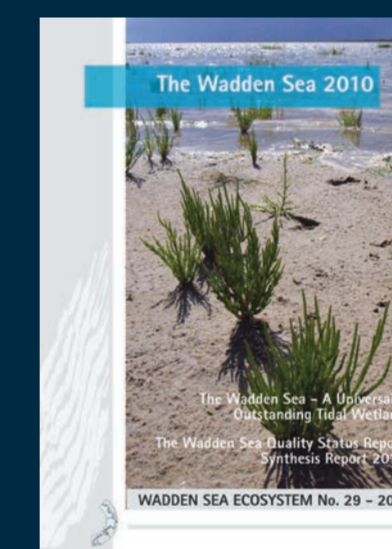
2009

The fifth QSR is published



2010

Synthesis Report QSR is published, summarises the main results and consequences for science, policy and management



2012

13th International Scientific Wadden Sea Symposium in Leeuwarden



Satellite picture. Copyright Eurimage 2003,
Common Wadden Sea Secretariat, Brockmann Consult.

The Wadden Sea – an area of Outstanding Universal Value

In 2009, the Dutch–German Wadden Sea was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List and extended by the Danish part of the Wadden Sea in 2014. It was inscribed for its globally unique geological and ecological values. Biodiversity on a worldwide scale is reliant on the Wadden Sea – a dynamic landscape with a multitude of habitats, being shaped by wind and tides.



Signing Flyway vision 2014

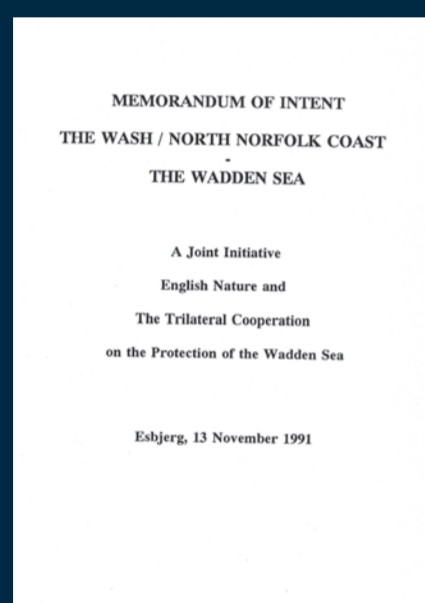
Milestones of World Heritage and International Cooperation

1989

World Heritage Committee defers Lower Saxon nomination and requests a joint nomination by the three countries

1991

Feasibility study (Burbridge Report) on designating the Wadden Sea as World Heritage Site – Ministerial Conference, Esbjerg, agrees to pursue the issue



1991

Memorandum of Intent with The Wash/Northern Norfolk Coast (UK)

1994

Collation of bird counting since the 1960s (Meltofte Report) substantiates the global importance of the Wadden Sea for migratory birds

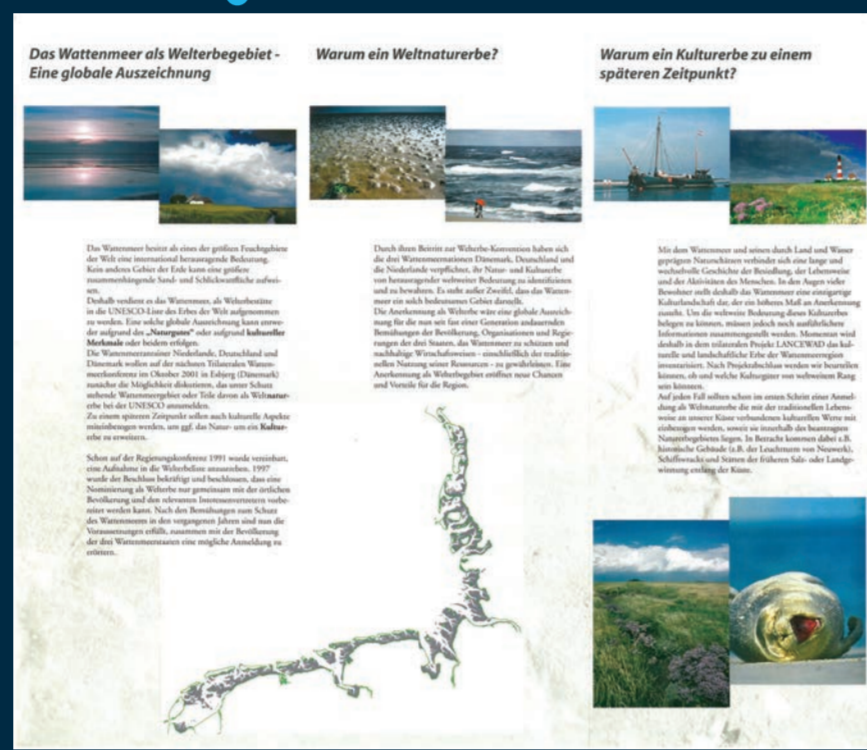


1997

Memorandum of Understanding signed with Guinea-Bissau on bird counting and capacity building

2000

Update of the World Heritage feasibility study (Burbridge Report II) validates that the Wadden Sea can be inscribed on the World Heritage List



2001

9th Wadden Sea Ministerial Conference, Esbjerg commences formal consultation on the World Heritage site nomination

2005

10th Wadden Sea Ministerial Conference decides starting the nomination process for the Wadden Sea World Heritage in Germany and the Netherlands



2008

Nomination dossier for the inscription of the Dutch-German Wadden Sea on the World Heritage List is submitted to the World Heritage Centre in Paris in January and field mission is conducted in September



2009

Memorandum of Understanding with Korea on tidal flat conservation and management

2009

World Heritage Committee inscribes the Wadden Sea on the World Heritage List



2011

The World Heritage Site is extended with the Hamburg Wadden Sea National Park

2012

Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative started on cooperation along the East Atlantic Flyway



2014

Memorandum of Understanding signed with Banc d'Arguin on protection of migratory birds; signing of a Flyway Vision developed by the Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative; adoption of trilateral strategy on 'Sustainable Tourism in the Destination Wadden Sea World Heritage'



2014

Extension of the World Heritage with Danish part of the Wadden Sea and further offshore parts of the Lower Saxon National Park – One Wadden Sea World Heritage

